

Amendment and Response to 1st Office Action
U.S. Application Serial No. 10/800,353
Attorney Docket No. MR/98-004.RE
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REMARKS

Claims 1-24 have been canceled, and claims 25-48 added. The new claims are very similar to the claims previously presented but more clearly express the novelty of the invention. Consequently, Applicant believes the Examiner will suffer no additional examination (i.e., search) burdens in the examination of the new claims.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicant believes that the §102(e) rejections of the claimed subject have been overcome. For example, the novelty can be found in the interface circuit, .e.g., the way it is selectively switched between the first and second modes of operation. Among other novel features, this distinguishes the claims over the teachings in the '797 patent to *Srinivasan*.

CONCLUSION

Given the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the Office Action dated 9 August 2006. Applicant believes the application is ready to be allowed. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this *Amendment and Response*, he is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

This *Amendment and Response* is accompanied by a **Petition For Extension of Time** for two months. The Commissioner is authorized to

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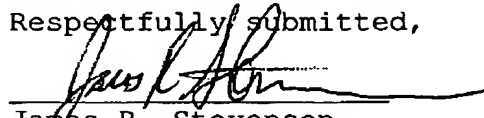
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charge **Deposit Account No. 13-2530** for the amount necessary to process and consider this *Amendment and Response*.

Respectfully submitted,


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